



## **What helps people living in rural areas keep healthy and well and what makes this difficult? An opportunity to give your views to service-providers**

Charlbury is one of 14 rural communities selected by the Oxfordshire County Council to help them learn more about the needs of rural communities and to plan services which support the good health and wellbeing of local residents.

Two local charities – Community First Oxfordshire and Healthwatch Oxfordshire – will be running an online and paper survey until 1 April 2026 and will also be holding a representative focus group of local residents in each community including one in Charlbury.

The survey can be filled in online by using this link:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/rurallivingpublic/> or by scanning the QR code at the end of this article.

If you do not have access to the internet or do not have a smartphone, you can obtain a paper copy of the questionnaire by contacting Healthwatch on 01865 520520. Healthwatch is also offering to enable people to fill in the survey on the phone (number as above). Copies can also be provided in large print or alternative formats or languages. Healthwatch's email address is [hello@healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk](mailto:hello@healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk).

The County Council want to get local views of people living in rural areas on the kind of services and facilities that would help their health and wellbeing.

The survey questions cover a wide range of issues including the following:

- What is good and not so good about living in Charlbury
- Access to shops, healthcare and social activities
- Housing circumstances
- Access to employment and training opportunities
- Getting around and about
- Keeping healthy and well – what helps and what makes this difficult

To be thorough the survey runs to at least half a dozen pages but don't be put off! Try to complete it all but, if this encourages you to reply, pick out the questions which are the most relevant or important to you and at least make sure that you answer these.

If you want to give your views on what living in Charlbury is like for you, the survey is anonymous and you are not asked to say who you are and no-one who responds can be identified.

If you do not live in Charlbury itself but have a connection to or live close to the town, you can still complete the survey and give your postcode to show where you live. The views of people living in rural communities which are smaller than Charlbury will also be valuable.

For further information, contact ATIC on 07487 413892. (NB This is not the number to use for requesting ATIC help with a trip or task. Our call centre number is 01993 776277)

1 February 2026

